

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2163

To amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, commonly called the Hobbs Act, to clarify that the use of violence to achieve collective bargaining objectives can be a violation of such section.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 1997

Mr. COBLE (for himself, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. CRANE, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. NORWOOD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, commonly called the Hobbs Act, to clarify that the use of violence to achieve collective bargaining objectives can be a violation of such section.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Freedom From Union
5 Violence Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF COVERAGE OF THE HOBBS ACT.**

7 Section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, is
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(d) For the purposes of this section, the use of ac-
2 tual or threatened force, violence, or fear in order to
3 achieve an otherwise legitimate labor relations objective,
4 other than that use which—

5 “(1) is incidental to otherwise peaceful picket-
6 ing during a labor dispute;

7 “(2) consists solely of minor bodily injury, or
8 minor damage to property, or threat or fear of such
9 minor injury or damage; and

10 “(3) is not a part of a pattern of violent con-
11 duct or of coordinated violent activity;
12 is wrongful.”.

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